

HAMATEUR CHATTER

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - since 1917

Volume 11 No. 2 - Feb, 2003

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From The President's Desk

Patrick Moretti - W9UQ

How do you know if there is a communications emergency?

How do you know if there is an emergency at all?

Do you monitor a particular repeater or HF frequency?

Do you have a computer with a tie-in to the internet?

How about one of those new Weather Radios with the alert notification capability?, these are not too expensive and yet provide a level of information with "digital read-out" that can confirm a specific Government generated alert. Get one and try at least to monitor some of the other tools available to us.

I can see a day, where all of the area repeaters will be tied in, in such a way that if an emergency condition is declared, a tone of some sort will blanket all of the repeaters in the affected and surrounding area in such a way that if amateurs have a radio squelched to that tone, the alert will open the radio and the alert announcement will be clearly heard... It would be tiresome to just sit there and monitor everything that goes on any repeater day in day out... but such a tone

squelch system activated in an emergency (and yes tests too) would provide a means of getting a lot of people up and ready to respond if a response is mandated! Something like we get on the broadcast radios, this is only a test, interrupting a broadcast of some sort (never an advertisement, I wonder how they do that...) In these "times" it may well be that we will be the front line of public information, picture this: You are at work, your Amateur Radio is triggered by the special tone on the repeater, you are alerted that there is a serious threat, weather or otherwise, in your immediate neighborhood. You advise the company authorities, they put an emergency plan into effect and thanks to you the danger passes safely without loss to your friends and co-workers... You too can be a hero, but you have to prepare, and we, as a Amateur Radio Community have to help in those preparations. What have you done for me lately?

It is time to start planning for our Field Day, this year we want to have fun and win. The sky if the weather

Continued on pg 2

Milwaukee Area Nets

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Daily	6-8 AM	14.290	Wisconsin/Florida (SSB)
Daily	6:30 PM	3.645	WI Slow Speed CW Traffic
Mon-Fri	8:30 AM	3.965	After Breakfast Club (SSB)
Mon.	8:00 PM	3.994	Tech Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.445	Emergency Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.670	ARRL voice news (ARES)
Mon.	9:00 PM	146.670	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Net
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.160	6 Mtr. 2nd Shifter's Net
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.250	Badger Contesters (SSB)
Tue.	8:00 PM	7.035	A.F.A.R. (CW)
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 Internat. (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Wed.	8:00 PM	145.13	ARRL voice news
Wed.	8:00 PM	147.270+	Weather & Swap net.
Wed.	9:00 PM	145.13	AMSAT net
Thu.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Interest Net
Thu.	9:00 PM	146.91 -	Computer Net
Fri.	8:30 PM	28.490	MRAC W9RH 10 meter Net (SSB)
Fri.	9:00 PM	145.390-	W9RH 2 mtr. FM Net after 10 mtr. Net
Sat.	9:00 PM	146.910-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800+	FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo SWAP Net
Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 International (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Sun.	8:00 PM	146.91-	Information Net
Sun.	9:00 PM	146.91-	Swap Net

Two meter (FM) Frequencies are 600 KHz offset repeaters. FM 38 is + 5 MHz. Ten meter (SSB) frequencies are upper sideband (USB).

permits should be spectacular with several major planets for us to see... there is a whole crop of new movies... and there are going to be plenty of radios, antennas and operating positions. Plan to come, plan to join us and plan to stay(!) and operate, operate, operate! Gerry is once again our chairman, we have the food and meals planning already well underway, all we need is you, and your commitment to come operate, we'll reserve a radio and frequency just for you!

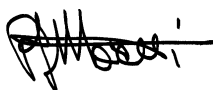
Your club is a very active club. We are teaching a General Class, soon to be followed by an Extra Class and then the cycle will repeat... There are code on the air classes every Monday and Wednesday thanks to DJ! At other times there is an informal code session between Mark and Tom... plenty of chances to join in and help some other folks get to enjoy (or at least appreciate) the code. You could

also participate, just join in and let DJ know that you are listening and maybe copy some of his message, its always encouraging to have an audience.

We have been providing interesting programs over the last few months. At least I think they have been interesting.. I'd like to get your feed-back. Are we going in the right direction or do you have some idea that you would like to either present yourself, or, suggest as a topic. The hard part sometimes is coming up with a topic...

At this point in our club year, the Board wants to thank you for your activities and for your support. We are all here to learn something and that means we are all to take a turn at teaching...

73



Patrick

MRAC VEC A Exam Schedule

- Saturday, February 22, 2003
9:30 AM – AES
- 9 AM (AES Superfest)
Saturday, April 26, 2003
9:30 AM – AES
- Saturday, May 31, 2003
9:30 AM – AES
- Saturday, July 26, 2003
9:30 AM – AES

AES is Amateur Electronics
Supply at 5700 W. Good Hope
Rd. in Milwaukee, WI



USE Our Repeater 145.390 MHz (127.3 Hz PL)!

Our repeater is a quiet one because YOU keep it that way.

Recent VE Exams

MRAC VEC held VE testing on Jan 25, 2003 at AES. There were 5 candidates, and all 5 succeeded in either qualifying for their initial license or in upgrading. Those VEs who helped out at the session included the following:

Doug Awe N9VA
Mark Bye KB9LDX
Gabe Chido WI9GC
Kent Christiansen N9WH
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Bob Immekus W9CYI
John Kraak KF9XL
Norm McNew KB9QL
Patrick Moretti W9UQ

Tom Schulte AB9EK
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Jerry Thompson W9SFH

While it would appear that we were a bit over-staffed at this session, I will try to do a better job of scheduling in the future. However, it was pointed out to me that these sessions are also a good ham get together, and many good ideas are shared. Our next exam session is scheduled for Sat, Feb 22, 2003 at 9:30AM at AES.

73,



John KF9XL

HamateurChatter

HamateurChatter is the newsletter of MRAC (Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club) which is a not for profit organization for the advancement of amateur radio and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

MRAC Membership dues are \$17.⁰⁰ per year and run on a calendar year starting with January1.

Our Club/VEC Phone no. is
(262) 797-MRAC or
(262) 797- 6 7 2 2.

Correspondence may
be addressed to:

M. R. A. C.
P.O. Box 070695
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695

Our meetings are normally at 7:00 PM. the last Thursday of the month except for December.



Membership Meeting Jan. 30, 2003

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm by the club's vice president Mark, AB9CD. The microphone was passed for introductions.

The secretary read the minutes of the November meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed. Les gave the treasurer's report for the months of September, October, November, December and January. The reports are late due to some family problems Les had had in the last few months. A discussion occurred on the expenses for the month of December. Mark explained to the members that the bill for the repeater equipment was paid along with refunds for the Christmas party. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Tom, KF9PU reported on this month's VE testing. There were eleven that tested during the January 4th swapfest and five at last Saturday's testing session. There will be testing in February and at super fest in April at AES. No testing in March.

Mark gave a report on the repeater. The new equipment is working well. There was a problem with the phone but that has been repaired. We will not have to be in a hurry to move from our present location because they have stopped looking for a new location for their business. We are waiting for better weather before the repeater is moved to its new location. The old repeater equipment has not been sold as of now.

A general class will begin on February 1st. Mark and Patrick will be teaching the class. There are four signed up at the present time. The class will start at 12:00 and end about 2:30pm.

The 2003 budget is still in process of being prepared. Hope to have it at the next meeting. Remember that your dues are due at this time and please fill out a renewal form.

The VHF/UHF contest is February 9th at 2:00pm. This is a FM simplex contest on 2-6-440-220 meters. Each band will be in operation for 30 minutes.

Pancho is looking for articles for the chatter. If you can write up an article, send it to him.

Jerry, WA9CGE stated that Field Day is the 4th weekend of June. He hopes to have some surprises for the event. If you can help in any way, contact Jerry.

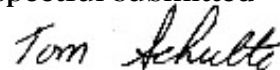
Pancho stated that Tom Gettleman had passed away. There is a card for everyone to sign. The funeral is on Monday February 3rd.

Rick Kissell WB9GYT and John Merkl WB9PSE donated an Icom 746 and antenna to Boy's Tech. Rick stated that the ARRL Handbook is an approved textbook for MPS. Anyone that can donate equipment or coax contact either Rick or John. Jerry WA9CGE stated he has a power supply that he will donate.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. Meeting adjourned.

The program for tonight's meeting is QSLing presented by Tom AB9EK. The program ended at 8:20pm.

Respectful submitted



Tom Schulte - AB9EK
Club Secretary

Upcoming Programs

The program for our February 27th meeting will be a presentation about the Circus Train and ride from Baraboo to Milwaukee by Phil Rebersberg - KC9CI with pictures.

Upcoming programs will include a presentation by Patrick Moretti - W9UQ about the ARRL in March, a talk about weather by Skip Voros - WD9HAS in April and our Auction in May.

Exam Requirements

When coming to take an exam, please bring your present original license (if you have one) plus a copy for our records. Also bring any CSCE's (along with a copy of each) which might pertain to the license upgrade for which you are striving. If you wish to apply for a grandfathered credit (for example, an old novice license credit for the EL-1 code exam) you must furnish written proof of this credit. Please bring along 2 forms of ID including one with your picture. The fee for the exam remains at \$8. If you need to re-take an exam element at the same session, a separate \$8 fee is charged. Please bring a pen, pencils, and a simple, non-programable calculator.

Thank you.



John - KF9XL

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)?

In this issue of the Chatter we continue to explore NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) and why every household should own a weather alert radio. It should be considered as essential as a smoke alarm.

Known as the "Voice of the National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. The NWR network has more than 480 transmitters, covering the 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. NWR requires a special radio receiver or scanner capable of picking up the signal. Broadcasts are found in the public service band between 162.400 and 162.550 megahertz (MHz).

What types of NOAA Weather Radio receivers are available?

NOAA Weather Radio receivers come in many sizes

and with a variety of functions. Many radios can receive an alarm tone, triggered when the NWS issues severe weather announcements or emergency information. Most NOAA Weather Radio receivers are either battery-operated portables or AC-powered desktop models with battery backup, so they can be used in many different situations. Some amateur radios, scanners, short wave and AM/FM radios are also capable of receiving NWR transmissions.

What frequencies is NOAA Weather Radio broadcast on and how can I get a list of the frequencies in my state?

The seven NWR broadcast frequencies are: 162.400 MHz, 162.425 MHz, 162.450 MHz, 162.475 MHz, 162.500 MHz, 162.525 MHz, and 162.550 MHz. NWR coverage is expanding through our partnership programs with local communities. For the latest list of frequencies and transmitter locations, check the NOAA Weather Radio web site — <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr>

Broadcast range from the weather radio transmitter is approximately 40 miles. The effective range depends on terrain, quality of the receiver, and indoor/outdoor antennas. Before you buy a receiver, make sure your area is covered by one of the transmitters.

Next month more questions and answers about NWR.

Brian - K9LCQ

Brian K9LCQ

High Interest Day

They are having a High Interest Day for 3rd & 4th Graders at Dean School in Brown Deer on March 28th 2003.

It would be great if our club could be represented at this event with a small HAM station.

Who knows, maybe we could get a little new blood into our Club, or at least interest some into coming to Field Day in June.

There is a HAM contact to talk to if interested.

Contact Bruce Wade - N9UR

wade@uwm.edu

Thanks for the help.

Jerry - W9SFH



Field Day Coming Up in June

It's not too early to start thinking about ARRL Field Day which will be coming up Sat. & Sun. June 28 & 29, 2003.

We will again have the use of the Cedarburg train depot at Pioneer Village 10 miles north of Cedarburg on Highway "I".

We always have a pretty good turn out, good food, entertainment, and lots of good fun. Last year we were able to see the movie "Frequency", thanks to our Club president, Patrick Moretti - W9UQ. We also were able to view images of sunspots using a telescope projected on the ceiling of the canopy of the Cedarburg train depot.

The purpose of Field Day is to check out our emergency preparedness, by setting up emergency equipment and see how many contacts we can make using various modes of communication and equipment and have fun. All you need is a HAM license to operate. In fact, last year we had a station where unlicensed operators could talk using a HAM station with the help of some of our members.

If interested, please contact Jerry Wahlen - WA9CGE either at: 463-8667 or online at: wahlen@netstream.net

KB9TIV's Field Trip to MFJ

Trip to MFJ and associated companies: 24 of us from Birmingham, members of Shelby County Amateur Radio Club and Birmingham Amateur Radio Club arrived at MFJ at 10:00 AM for a day filled with tours and food.

We were split into two groups; Mr. Martin Jue, President, led ours. First we went to Mr. Jue's office where he showed us many old radios that adorn his office. He has a space off his office, about the size of a galley kitchen, where he can tinker, dream, and create new ideas.

Mr. Jue then took us into the production area where we saw material and products. MFJ makes virtually every component that goes into their products, including coils, inductors and boxes to house their products. There were lots of Morse Code Reader's in various stages of construction. MFJ had a flow solder machine, pick & place SMD equipment (robots), roller inductors (from scratch), and variable capacitors (from scratch). The SMD machines use tape rolls containing the teeny, tiny capacitors, which go onto the blank boards. Any other components used are hand soldered on after this.

From here we went to Mirage - to see VHF/UHF amplifiers.

Then we went to Ameritron - tuners and HF amplifiers.

After that, Mr. Jue took us to the print shop - silk screening front panels, CNC milling machine - metal cutting and shaping

Robotic press - folds corners and sides of metal plate to form cabinets

Proprietary jig - forms loop portion of Isolooop antenna

We saw the Design and Engineering areas that are near the print shop. Not much to see here, 2 offices.

Now to LUNCH! The MFJ folks had "prepared some fine country food" from Popeye's. Good Stuff!

The other group had completed the entire tour so headed

for home.

Our group still had more to see. Off to Vectronics to see their tuners.

Our final stop was at Hy-gain - antennas, rotators & towers. Steve was our tour director. Here again, Hy-gain makes most every component including windings for coils. When Hy-gain was purchased they were able to buy many dies but were unable to purchase the machines that used these dies. They sought out companies who had machines that could be modified to fit these dies. Two machines they purchased are from the 1960's, old and green in color.

Hy-gain rotators - produce sensing potentiometer, wind transformers and motors. They also produce laminations, which are then wound into their transformers and motors.

We completed our tour about 3:30. It was a very interesting and fun day. I truly enjoyed seeing the manufacturing process and am still very impressed by these companies who make so many parts before they make the final product!

MFJ and subs claim that every single part of every single piece of equipment they have ever produced is available for sale - this is in addition to warranty and service needs. This means you could purchase, for example, a roller inductor to build your own tuner.

When asked how many of the company employees are hams, Mr. Jue was not certain the number. He said that it is much easier now to hire new employees since it is no longer a requirement that all engineers and technicians be hams.

A great time was had by all, thanks to MFJ and companies for their hospitality.



Barbara - KB9TIV



KB9TIV

SK, W9IZO

Tom Gettelman -W9IZO - SK- age 85

Tom died peacefully on Jan. 29, '03.

He was licensed as a HAM in 1932 at the age of 13 and was a member of our Club (MRAC) since 1941. Tom was a regular at our Saturday morning breakfast until he was unable to make the trip anymore. He came to most of the Field Day excursions in recent years.

Other interests included: flying, curling, and the Quiet Birdmen flying club. He was active with the Master Brewers Association, Masons and The Kiwanis Club.

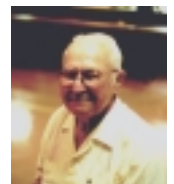
He was the last President of the Gettelman Brew-

ery having assumed the helm of the company in 1954. They (Tom and his brother, who was chairman of the board) sold the brewery to Miller Brewing in 1961.

Tom Gettelman was a gentleman, always fair, polite, and a man of his word. He wasn't very talkative, but he did have some interesting stories to tell and had a hearty laugh.

In addition to his wife, Nancy Moore Gettelman, and daughter, Elizabeth Polland, Thomas is survived by a son, Ted; a sister, Helen Miller; grandchildren, and great-granddaughters.

He'll be missed by all who knew him.



9/11/'01 QSO confirmed by K9LQ/KB9SLC Alfred Huwald

K6MAN
EX: KASXW



BOB MOSS • 731 E. Providence Ave. • Burbank, CA 91501-2408 U.S.A.

CONTINENT	STATE	CITY	DATE	TIME	UTC	BAND	RST	MODE	QSL
K9SLC	IL	9	01	1700	20W	59	SSB	PSK	THX

A WEIRD QSL LOS ANGELES COUNTY • DM04

FRONT

NEW CALL = W7WOW
K6MAN P.O. Box 222
 DYER, NJ. 89010
 ESMEALDA COUNTY

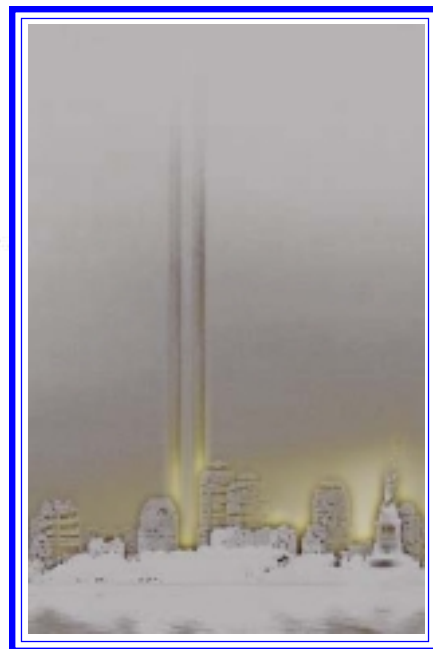
QSL FROM CORPORATE JET "GULFSTREAM 5"
 ENROUTE TO BURBANK FROM BUDAPEST
 POSITION = 000 MI. NORTH OF ICELAND
 CRUISING AT 43,000 FEET AT 500 KNOTS.
 AFTER NOTIFIED OF 9/11 DIVERTED TO
 CALGARY, CANADA.

BACK

Note the time and date of the QSO: (right in between the crash of the first and second airliners into the World Trade Center towers).

Alfred,

I wanted to thank you for the QSO we had the morning of 9/11. We had heard several aircraft close to London ask for permission to return back to London that morning. Nobody knew why the airspace over the U.S.A. was suddenly closed to all traffic. Because of your report to us I was able to relay to a dozen other aircraft over the North Atlantic of the situation in N.Y. This allowed them extra time for their contingency plans. The East coast of Canada was going to be crowded. Hope to hear from you again. "73" Bob Moss



In Memory
of the Towers

K6MAN - KB9SLC

EVENTS

* indicates VEC Testing

VE Testing *

SAT. - FEB. 22, 2003 - 9:30 AM
AES
Milwaukee, WI

MRAC Meeting

FEB. 27, 2002

7:00 PM

REDEMPTION LUTHERAN CHURCH
MILWAUKEE, WI

NS9RC HamFest

SUN. - MAR. 23, 2003

Lake Co. Fairgrounds

Grayslake, IL

T/I on 147.345 MHz + PL107.2)

AES SuperFest 2003*

Fri.&Sat. Apr. 4 & 5, 2003

AES

Milwaukee, WI

Madison SwapSest *

Sun. - April 13, 2003

Mand Community Center

Stoughton, WI

T/I on 147.150 MHz

SwapFest Cedarburg *

SAT. - MAY 3, 2003

Circle B Recreation Center

Cedarburg, WI

T/I on 146.97- (PL127.3 Hz)

Dayton Hamvention

May 16-18, 2003

Dayton, OH

Chicago Amateur Radio Club

HamFest

SUN. - MAY 25, 2003

DeVry University

Chicago, IL

Princeton HamFest

SUN. - JUN. 1, 2003

Bureau Co. Fairgrounds

Princeton, IL

T/I on 146.955 MHz - (103.5 PL)

ARRL Field Day

Sat.&Sun.- Jun. 28&29, 2003

Pioneer Village

Cedarburg, WI

SMARC SwapFest

Sat. - Jul. 12, 2003

American Legion Post 434

9327 S. Shepard Ave.

Oak Creek, WI

Use it or lose it -- our Repeater.

145.390 MHz - offset and PL of 127.3Hz

Meeting Schedule

Our Meeting schedule for the
the remainder of the year 2002
is as follows:

Thu. - Feb. 27, '03

Thu. - Mar. 27, '03

Thu. - Apr. 24, '03

Thu. - May 29, '03

Thu. - Jun. 26, '03

See you there!

Pancho

Pancho - KA9OFA

Credits

Our thanks to our news contributors
this month:

AB9CD	K9LCQ	KB9TIV
WA9CGE	K9LQ	W9UQ
AB9EK	W9SFH	KF9XL

Thanks also to Rita Doneis, and
Mark Tellier - AB9CD for their help
in the proofreading dept. Our thanks
goes to John Merkl and Jerry Wahlen
for making sure that the 'Chatter
gets printed, stamped, and mailed.

Thanks also goes to Howard Parks
who administers our website.

Thanks also to Alfred Huwald,
Myron Hendrickson, and Ted Stiller
for obtaining and serving refresh-
ments at our meetings.



Thanks also goes to Tom Sherl-
owsky and Jacquie Horwitz for tak-
ing care of the raffle at the meetings.

Thanks John Kraak and Tom
Fuszard who are our VEC's

Thanks to Jerry Wahlen - WA9CGE
for hosting our Friday night nets.

Special thanks to all of our officers
(past and present) who have tirelessly
toiled for the good of the Club and
Amateur Radio in general.

Many Thanks!

M.R.A.C.

Meetings are normally held the last Thursday of each month except in December.

Our next meeting is;

Thursday - February 27, 2002.

at 7:00 PM at:

Redemption Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall

4057 N. Mayfair Rd.

(Use the south entrance)

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Please! Don't call the Church

**Dues 'R Due,
Let's dues it.**

Renewal form is in Nov. issue of
'Chatter or available at meeting.

Attention!!!

Program for the
Feb. MRAC meeting
will be a presentation by
Phil Rebensberg -
KC9CI about the
Circus Train and HAM
radio's part in the trip.

Visit our Website **<http://www.qsl.net/mrac/>**

Our Phone (262) 797-MRAC

797 - 7 7 2 2

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Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club
P.O. Box 070695
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695